

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The present application includes pending claims 1-36, of which claims 1-27 were previously presented and claims 28-36 are newly added system claims. Claims 1-27 have been amended to clarify the language to further prosecution without adding new matter. The Applicant requests reconsideration of the claims in view of the following remarks and arguments.

1. (Currently amended) A method for providing network management in a hybrid wired/wireless local area network, the method comprising:

receiving from ~~at least one~~ or both of a first access point and/or a first switch, a first messaging protocol message containing quality of service (QoS) information;

responsive to said first messaging protocol message, determining at least a minimum QoS level for operation of ~~at least one~~ or more of said first switch, said first access point, a second access point, and/or a second switch; and

distributing QoS information corresponding to said determined at least a minimum QoS level to ~~at least one~~ or more of said first switch, said first access point, said second access point and/or said second switch, using a second messaging protocol message.

2. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, further comprising providing access to at least one of a plurality access devices based on said distributed QoS information.

3. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 2, ~~further~~ comprising queuing traffic associated with at least one of said plurality of access devices to maintain said determined at least a minimum QoS level.

4. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 3, ~~further~~ comprising prioritizing said traffic associated with at least one of said plurality of access devices to maintain said determined at least a minimum QoS level.

5. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim ~~[[1]]~~2, ~~further~~ comprising scheduling access by at least one of said plurality of access devices to ~~at least one~~ or both of said first and or said second access points.

6. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said distributing ~~further~~ comprises distributing said QoS information to at least a portion of the hybrid wired/wireless local area network.

7. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, ~~further~~ comprising allocating bandwidth to maintain said at least a minimum QoS level.

8. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, further comprising balancing a load on ~~at least one~~ or both of said first switch, said first access point, said second access point and or said second switch to maintain said at least a minimum QoS level.

9. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 8, wherein each of said first and said second messaging protocol messages comprises ~~at least one~~ or more message selected from the group consisting of an access point status message, access point configuration message, a switch status message, a switch configuration message, a client status message and a device discovery message.

10. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable storage, having stored thereon a computer program having at least one code section for providing network management in a hybrid wired/wireless local area network, the at least one code section executable by a machine for causing the machine to perform the steps comprising:

receiving from ~~at least one~~ or both of a first access point and or a first switch, a first messaging protocol message containing quality of service (QoS) information;

responsive to said first messaging protocol message, determining at least a minimum QoS level for operation of ~~at least one~~ or more of said first switch, said first access point, a second access point, and or a second switch; and

distributing QoS information corresponding to said determined at least a minimum QoS level to ~~at least one~~ or more of said first switch, said first access point, said second access point and or said second switch, using a second messaging protocol message.

11. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable storage according to claim 10, ~~further~~ comprising code for providing access to at least one of a plurality access devices based on said distributed QoS information.

12. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable storage according to claim 11, ~~further~~ comprising code for queuing traffic associated with at least one of said plurality of access devices to maintain said determined at least a minimum QoS level.

13. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable storage according to claim 12, ~~further~~ comprising code for prioritizing said traffic associated with at least one of said plurality of access devices to maintain said determined at least a minimum QoS level.

14. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable storage according to claim ~~[[10]]~~11, ~~further~~ comprising code for scheduling access by at least one of said plurality of access devices to ~~at least one~~ or both of said first and or said second access points.

15. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable storage according to claim 10, wherein said distributing ~~further~~ comprises code for distributing said QoS information to at least a portion of the hybrid wired/wireless local area network.

16. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable storage according to claim 10, ~~further~~ comprising code for allocating bandwidth to maintain said at least a minimum QoS level.

17. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable storage according to claim 10, ~~further~~ comprising code for balancing a load on at least one or both of said first switch, said first access point, said second access point and or said second switch to maintain said at least a minimum QoS level.

18. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable storage according to claim 18, wherein each of said first and second messaging protocol messages comprises ~~at least one~~ or more message selected from the group consisting of an access point status message, access point configuration message, a switch status message, a switch configuration message, a client status message and a device discovery message.

19. (Currently Amended) A system for providing network management in a hybrid wired/wireless local area network, the system comprising:

at least one receiver adapted to receive from ~~at least one~~ or both of a first access point and or a first switch, a first messaging protocol message containing quality of service (QoS) information;

at least one controller adapted to determine at least a minimum QoS level for operation of ~~at least one~~ or more of said first switch, said first access point, a second access point, and or a second switch in response to said first messaging protocol message; and

said at least one controller adapted to distribute QoS information corresponding to said determined at least a minimum QoS level to ~~at least one~~ or more of said first switch, said first access point, and or second access point and said second switch, using a second messaging protocol message.

20. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 19, wherein said at least one controller is ~~further~~ adapted to provide access to at least one of a plurality access devices based on said distributed QoS information.

21. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 20, wherein said at least one controller is ~~further~~ adapted to queue traffic associated with at least one of said plurality of access devices to maintain said determined at least a minimum QoS level.

22. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 21, wherein said at least one controller is ~~further~~ adapted to prioritize said traffic associated with at least one of said plurality of access devices to maintain said determined at least a minimum QoS level.

23. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim ~~[[19]]20~~, wherein said at least one controller is ~~further~~ adapted to schedule access by at least one of said plurality of access devices to ~~at least one~~ or both of said first and or said second access points.

24. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 19, wherein said at least one controller is ~~further~~ adapted to distribute said QoS information to at least a portion of the hybrid wired/wireless local area network.

25. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 19, wherein said at least one controller is ~~further~~ adapted to allocate bandwidth to maintain said at least a minimum QoS level.

26. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 19, wherein said at least one controller is ~~further~~ adapted to balance a load on ~~at least one~~ or both of said first switch, said first access point, said second access point and said second switch to maintain said at least a minimum QoS level.

27. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 26, wherein each of said first and second messaging protocol messages comprises ~~at least one~~ or more message selected from the group consisting of an access point status message, access point configuration message, a switch status message, a switch configuration message, a client status message and a device discovery message.

28. (New) A system for providing network management in a hybrid wired/wireless local area network, the system comprising:

at least one controller adapted to determine from a first messaging protocol message containing quality of service (QoS) information and received from one or both of a first access point and a first switch, at least a minimum QoS level for operation of one or more of said first switch, said first access point, a second access point, and/or a second switch; and

said at least one controller adapted to distribute QoS information corresponding to said determined at least a minimum QoS level to one or more of said first switch, said first access point, said second access point and/or said second switch, using a second messaging protocol message.

29. (New) The system according to claim 28, wherein said at least one controller is adapted to provide access to at least one of a plurality access devices based on said distributed QoS information.

30. (New) The system according to claim 29, wherein said at least one controller is adapted to queue traffic associated with at least one of said plurality of access devices to maintain said determined at least a minimum QoS level.

31. (New) The system according to claim 30, wherein said at least one controller is adapted to prioritize said traffic associated with at least one of said plurality of access devices to maintain said determined at least a minimum QoS level.

32. (New) The system according to claim 29, wherein said at least one controller is adapted to schedule access by at least one of said plurality of access devices to one or both of said first and/or said second access points.

33. (New) The system according to claim 28, wherein said at least one controller is adapted to distribute said QoS information to at least a portion of the hybrid wired/wireless local area network.

34. (New) The system according to claim 28, wherein said at least one controller is adapted to allocate bandwidth to maintain said at least a minimum QoS level.

35. (New) The system according to claim 28, wherein said at least one controller is adapted to balance a load on one or more of said

first switch, said first access point, said second access point and/or said second switch to maintain said at least a minimum QoS level.

36. (New) The system according to claim 35, wherein each of said first and said second messaging protocol messages comprises one or more message selected from the group consisting of an access point status message, access point configuration message, a switch status message, a switch configuration message, a client status message and a device discovery message.